

EMPS News

Autumn Half Term 1 2026/27



Dear Families,

We are delighted to welcome you all back for what promises to be another busy and exciting year at Eyres Monsell Primary School. If your child is joining school for the first time this year, a special welcome to you all! As well as welcoming new families, we also welcome two new full time teachers; **Miss. Davies (Y2)** and **Miss. Melbourne (Reception)** and a number of Teaching Assistants to the team; **Miss. Boulter (Y5)**, **Mrs. Noreen (Y6)**, **Miss. Johnson (Y2)** and **Miss. Smith (EYFS)**. We also welcome back **Miss. Morgan** into Y3 from her travels around the world.

This term, our focus is on the school value **Respect**. We are working really hard to reinforce our 3 school rules: **Be Ready, Be Respectful, Be Safe**, and are learning what these mean in each year group and how to demonstrate these. We would love for you to talk to your children about these! Our **Strong Start** approach to the academic year means that we are working on embedding these rules in all aspects of school life and the children are already demonstrating this during our Whole School Assemblies on a Monday and Friday. We are determined to keep this up for the whole year!

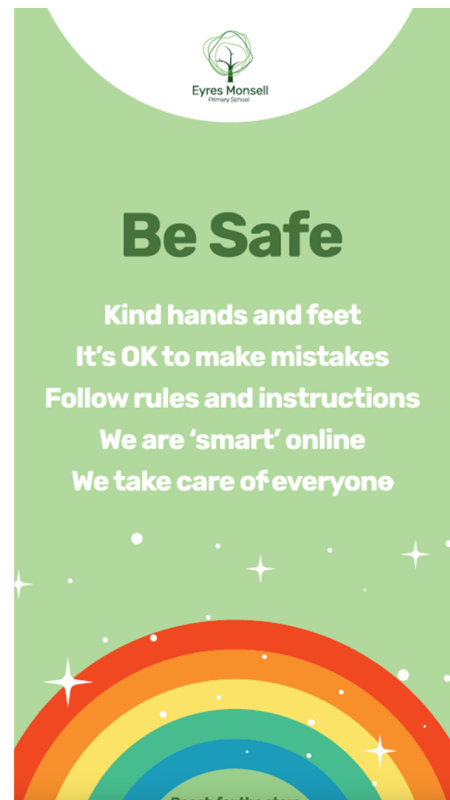
If you were able to attend our **Parent Welcome Sessions last Wednesday** we hope that you found them useful and informative for what you can expect for the year ahead. If you were not able to attend this for any reason, please inform your child's class teacher so that you can collect any information that was given out.

As you know, we are moving our communication platform to **Arbor**. As with any major move this will undoubtedly cause some frustration. For a short time there may be a duplication of information, or a sense of a lack of communication. Please bear with us while we make this transition as the long term sharing of information will be so much better for you. We are also reinstating **Class Dojo** for you to be able to see the wonderful photos from your child's class and get messages and reminders about all the things that are going on. Arbor will be used for whole school information sharing and all bookings (such as Parents' Evening and clubs) and payments. Payments include trips, breakfast club or after school care (Acorns), purchasing uniform, swimming etc etc. We would appreciate your cooperation in downloading both Class Dojo and Arbor as soon as possible and turning on your notifications.

We are really looking forward to the term ahead and can't wait to see all of the progress and achievements we will make together. As always, thank you for your support.

Ms. Williamson

Our 3 School Rules



We really do only have 3 school rules! Be Ready, Be Respectful and Be Safe. Your child has been learning how they need to follow these specifically for their year group and their class. Please do talk to your child to find out what the expectations are for them. We are focusing on including these words in all of our conversations about behaviour and expectations so that children can be happy and successful learners.

OPAL—Outdoor Play and Learning



We are becoming an OPAL school! The programme is a transformative initiative aimed at enhancing playtimes in schools, providing our children with more opportunities for active, imaginative and sociable play. It focuses on the development of high quality playtimes, aiming to make every child's playtime an amazing experience every day, without exceptions. The approach includes staff training to enrich play, ensuring the children have access to a variety of resources and a freedom to mix with children of all ages. We can't wait to get started on our training later this term and we will all feel the benefits!

Trip Contributions

Your contributions towards school trips and visiting experiences are extremely important, as they help us provide children with enriching opportunities beyond the classroom. These experiences support learning, confidence and memorable moments for our pupils. Please contribute whenever you are able to. **Unfortunately, trips and visitor experiences may have to be cancelled if we do not receive enough contributions to cover the costs.**

Payments can be made on Arbor or directly via card at the School Office.



School Improvement Priorities—PATHS



2026/27 SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Our PATHS to Success



OUR VISION

Creating clear pathways to excellence so every child thrives.



P	A	T	H	S
PLAY & PROVISION  Engaging spaces to learn, play and grow	ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING 	TRANSCRIPTION SKILLS 	HOME-SCHOOL INFORMATION SHARING 	STRENGTHENING PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT 
✓ Improved playgrounds ✓ Better wellbeing ✓ Positive play experiences	✓ Accurate assessment ✓ Targeted support ✓ Stronger progress in English & Maths	✓ Better spelling ✓ Improved handwriting ✓ High-quality presentation	✓ Clear communication ✓ Stronger parent partnerships ✓ Effective use of Arbor	✓ Confidence & resilience ✓ Positive learning behaviours ✓ Wellbeing & enrichment opportunities

WHAT WE WANT FOR EVERY CHILD


 To achieve highly


 To feel happy and safe


 To develop confidence and resilience


 To build positive relationships


 To be ready for the future

We are committed to providing every child with the very best opportunities to learn, grow and succeed. Our 2026/27 School Improvement Plan focuses on five key priorities, known as **P.A.T.H.S**: improving **Play and Provision**, strengthening **Assessment for Learning**, developing **Transcription Skills** such as spelling and handwriting, enhancing **Home-School Information Sharing**, and supporting **Personal Development**.

Through these priorities, we aim to raise standards in English and Mathematics, promote positive wellbeing and behaviour, strengthen partnerships with families, and ensure that every child feels safe, valued and inspired to achieve their full potential. Working together with pupils, parents, staff and governors, we will continue to build a school where every child can thrive.

Attendance

At Eyres Monsell Primary School, our attendance target for all children is 96%. All children will have some days of absence due to illness; it is highly important that they're in school and ready for learning on days that they're medically well; if you are not sure if they are well enough you can refer to the NHS guidance online called 'is my child well enough for school?'

If you're struggling with before and after school arrangements, please get in contact as we now offer both a breakfast and after school care. We want to work with families to ensure your children are in school and striving to reach their potential each and every day. We will work within the guidelines set out by the government and enforced by the Local Authority, for issuing penalty notice fines.

If there is anything we can do to support you with your child's attendance, please get into contact with Mr Dowsing would will be able to support with this.

To all local parents and schools in Leicestershire

Most pharmacies can help you with **severe common conditions** without needing a GP appointment.



Earache
(Children aged 1 to 17 years)

Visit your Pharmacy First!

Did you know that pharmacies can now offer clinical appointments with medication available if required for four clinical conditions particularly relevant to school age children?

- Ear ache (children aged 1-17)
- Sore throat (over 5s)
- Infected insect bites (over 1s)
- Impetigo (over 1s)

GP practices are busy and it can be difficult to get a same-day GP appointment. When your child is off sick from school with any of the above conditions, by going straight to your local pharmacy you can have a consultation with a trained clinical professional and receive advice and even medication if it is needed, meaning they could be on the road to recovery and back at school as soon as possible.



Infected Insect Bite or Impetigo
(Children and adults age 1 and over)

Visit your Pharmacy First!

The majority of Leicestershire community pharmacies offer the Pharmacy First service. Remember – if your child has an ear ache, sore throat, impetigo symptoms or suspected infected insect bite think

Pharmacy First!



Sore Throat
(Children and adults age 5 and up)

Visit your Pharmacy First!

For more info on community pharmacy services visit

www.leicestershire-rutland.communitypharmacy.org.uk



Curriculum overview

This term, we're really excited to be taking the children on a journey around the globe through our geography focus: *Wonders of the World*. Each year group will be exploring a different place, culture, or theme, helping them to see just how fascinating and varied our world really is.

Our **EYFS** children will begin the year with the theme 'All about me'. They'll be learning about themselves, their families, and their immediate surroundings, while also starting to think about their own place in the wider world. In **Year 1**, the children will be staying a little closer to home as they explore the UK and its capital cities, finding out what makes each one unique and special as well as learning about King Charles. In **Year 2**, the adventure really takes off! The children will be introduced to the seven continents of the world and then follow in the footsteps of the famous traveller Thomas Cook, thinking about how people first began to explore places far beyond our own shores.

Year 3 are off to Italy, where they'll learn about its landscapes and how geography influences food and tourism – and I'm sure there will be plenty of talk about pasta and pizza along the way! **Year 4** will travel across the Atlantic to explore the incredible physical geography of North America, from mountains to plains, while **Year 5** will be heading back in time to Ancient Egypt to discover why the River Nile was so vital to life and civilisation. Finally, our oldest pupils in **Year 6** will study the fascinating Mayan civilisation and uncover the wonders of their world.

It's a wonderful topic that really sparks curiosity, and I know the children are going to enjoy learning not just about faraway places but also about how people and geography are connected in so many interesting ways.

Meeting your child's class teacher this term

Last academic year we trialled having an option for a Parents' 'Evening' during the school day, and this was very well received! We will therefore offer that option again this year. Bookings will be available on Arbor from Monday 21st September at 9am.

If you are making a daytime appointment, we ask that you do not bring any children with you due to the noise in the hall. Many thanks.



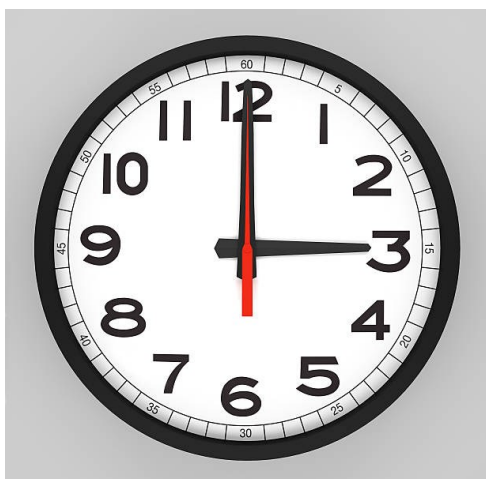
Arbor Parent App

Thank you to ALL of the parents who have signed up! There are only a few who have not yet made the leap! Here is the QR code to the parent app should you require it.

Weduc will stop being used from Friday 16th October (half term) and all information will be on Arbor and Class Dojo ONLY.



Sibling collection from school



We know how helpful it is when siblings can collect from school! As part of our safeguarding responsibility, if you are sending a child between the ages of 11-15 to collect from school, you will need to complete and sign a form with a declaration. This ensures that you are satisfied that you are sending a responsible person to collect from school and that school staff are able to release to a young person.

If we see a young person collecting from school we may phone you in the first instance to seek permission and then send you a form to complete. Thank you for sharing in our safeguarding duty!

Autumn Half Term 1 Diary Dates



Please see the important diary dates below. As we know, things sometimes change due to unforeseen circumstances, and we will do our best to give you as much notice as possible about any upcoming changes.

Date	Event
Tuesday 25th August	Autumn 1 starts
W/c Monday 31st August	Clubs start this week
Tuesday 1st September	Reception children start
Wednesday 2nd September	Parent Welcome Meetings Y5LB start swimming lessons (13 weeks)
Friday 4th September	Pre-school start Y6 CC Class Assembly
Wednesday 9th September	Y1 Trip to Abbey Park
Friday 11th September	Y5 LL Class Assembly
Friday 18th September	Y4 SB Class Assembly
Thursday 24th September	Y2 Trip to Great Central Railway
Tuesday 29th September	School Photo Day (family groups from 8am)
Friday 2nd October	Y3 SJ/ KK Class Assembly
Wednesday 7th October	Y6 Trip to Cadburys World
Friday 9th October	Y5 River Nile experience (in school) Y2 EH Class Assembly
Tuesday 13th October	Y3—Y6 Parents' Afternoon (1-3.30pm)
Wednesday 14th October	Whole School Parents' Evening (3-7pm)
Thursday 15th October	EYFS & KS1 Parents' Afternoon (1-3.30pm)
Friday 16th October	Y1 JT Class Assembly Whole School Reading Event—2pm
Monday 26th October	INSET DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN
Tuesday 27th October	Autumn 2 starts